

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Moose Lake Historic District

Other names/site number: The Itter/Savage/Hauck Camp

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: Moose Lake Residential Site, Lots 4 and 5, Block B

City or town: Philipsburg State: MT County: Granite

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☒

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 X A B C D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private: ☒
- Public – Local ☐
- Public – State ☐
- Public – Federal ☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s) ☐
- District ☒
- Site ☐
- Structure ☐
- Object ☐

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>9</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/camp

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/camp

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

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north sides. Moose Lake provides the boundary on the south side of the district. A recently installed jack leg fence provides the west boundary of the historic district. The buildings and structures on the site were built from 1919 to 1925 and display uniformity in design of materials, function, and paint scheme. The historic district is reached by a public access road that enters the historic district from the northwest.

Itter/Savage Cabin (one contributing building, 1918)

The main cabin is a one-story log and frame residence with additions. The 28 ft. x 38 ft. cabin consists of three sections built over a span of several years plus a later 1963 addition. The cabin rests on sill logs with some visible irregularly placed foundation stones. The rectangular core cabin is covered by a gable roof with a 12 ft. x 38 ft. shed roof extension on the north and a 7 ft. x 36 ft. shed roof enclosed porch on the south. The roofs are sheathed in asphalt shingles with green-painted metal fascia.¹ A brick chimney poking up from the south roof slope is topped with a tall wind directional stainless steel chimney cap. The fascia partially obscures round log roof purlins. The walls of the main mass are comprised of round logs, square-notched at the corners, with pole chinking. Windows throughout are multi-light sliding windows or fixed light units, all with green trim. Doorways appear on the north façade opening into the kitchen, on the east wall of the north addition, and leading into the enclosed porch on the east. All display original screen doors. The original door on the east end of the enclosed porch is a wood door with nine upper lights with a fixed light side light. An original exterior light fixture illuminates this entry. The door on the east end of the north addition is also an original door that exhibits iron hardware. An original window is immediately adjacent to the door to the north.

An enclosed glassed-in porch extends the entire length of the south wall. Originally an open shed roof porch, Leslie L. Savage enclosed the approximately 7 ft. x. 36 ft. porch in circa 1924. He also built a gable roof sun porch addition measuring 11.8 ft. x 12.5 ft. that extends from the center of the porch. The round log addition, called a veranda by its builder, displays a gable roof clad in asphalt shingles, extended enclosed eaves, and metal fascia. The addition sits on sill logs. The east, west, and south elevations of the enclosed porch exhibit a combination of sliding and fixed multi-light windows. All window trim is painted green and all sliding windows are accompanied with screens.

In 1963, John C. and Elizabeth C. Hauck built a 17 ft. x 16 ft. gable roof kitchen/dining frame addition off the east gable end of the core cabin. The addition has clapboard cladding. The addition displays a large fixed light window on the south facing Moose Lake and two two-light sliders on the east elevation. A doorway on the north side of the addition has a three-panel wood door with single upper lights and an original screen door. A concrete stoop sits in front of the door.

The Itter/Savage Cabin was likely constructed in 1918 by Martin "Moose" Johnson. When completed, the cabin exhibited high ceilings and was divided into three rooms. When Savage purchased the cabin in 1922, he expanded the cabin by adding two back rooms to the north, using one for an office. He removed the room divisions and built a substantial fireplace of stones taken from Rock Creek. Les Savage

¹ All roofs within the district have been built up for insulation and metal fascia installed.

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enclosed the front porch in about 1924 and added a sun porch. The cabin was further enhanced by awnings, but they have since been removed.²

The Lydens, who purchased the property from the Savages in 1945, “repaired floors and roofs, re-wired, replaced the simple toilet facilities with a bathroom.”³ When the Haucks bought the property, they hired Elmo Briggs of Butte to add a kitchen-dining room on the east end of the cabin in 1963.

The interior of the main cabin still reflects much of its original historic character with its exposed logs, high ceiling, and exposed log purlins. Other historic features include the stone fireplace and its historic light fixtures, and solid interior wood doors exhibiting original hand-forged iron hardware. Original wagon wheel ceiling light fixtures with battered tin cones illuminate the sun porch and the main cabin.

Outhouse (one contributing building, circa 1945)

This one-seater outhouse sits about 57 ft. north of the Bathhouse along the east edge of the valley floor above a swale. The 5 ft. x 7 ft. outhouse sits on concrete blocks at the corners with scattered stones underneath the frame. The outhouse has a gable roof sheathed in plywood with exposed 2 in. x 4 in. purlins that extends over the façade. The frame walls are covered with ¼-round log siding. The east façade holds a centered vertical log slab door. A sign reading “The Unflushables” graces the exterior over the doorway and the door itself features the classic half-moon cut-out vent. A small wood plank deck is attached to the façade with wood railings supported by vertical log posts. This outhouse replaced the original outhouse and was built by the Lyden’s in the 1940s.

Cookhouse (Cookie cabin) (one contributing building, 1924)

The Cookhouse is a 26 ft. x 27 ft. one-story wood frame building with a nearly square footprint. The Cookhouse is covered by a gable roof with shed roof extensions on the north and south walls. Only the main mass of the building sits on a concrete block foundation. The building is clad in half-log siding. The north façade wall is symmetrical with a centrally located gable-roof entry section that holds a four-light door flanked to either side by fixed lights.

The entry opens into a small room where lapped siding covers the walls. A four-by-four slider window is centered on the south interior wall. The east and west walls of the entry interior each hold a solid wood door. The east door originally accessed the cookhouse pantry.

The east wall holds a small four by four sliding window centered on the wall over the kitchen sink. The west elevation holds a large picture window also centered on the wall. A wood deck extends across the west wall of the building. It stands on a wood pier foundation.

A shed roof screened-in porch covers the length of the south wall. A screen door opens into the porch from the west end. The interior porch walls display lapped siding, a door entry into the main cabin, and a multi-pane sliding window to each side of the door.

² Elizabeth C. Hauck, *The Story of Moose Lake*, (self-published, 1978), np.

³ Hauck, *The Story of Moose Lake*, np.

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This building was constructed for Savage's mining partner, Inglis M. Upperco, so "all in camp could have their meals together." When originally constructed in the 1920s, the building only had a screen porch across the south wall but a second shed roof addition across the north wall was soon added. Joe and Mae Lyden of Butte modified the front (north) façade entrance. The Haucks remodeled the cookhouse interior in 1997.⁴

Sleeping (Maid's) cabin 1 (one contributing building, 1924)

Built as one of two maid's cabins by Savage, this 10 ft. x 12 ft. one-room building faces east and is about 9 ft. east of the Sleeping (Maid's) cabin 2, described below. The building has a mostly square footprint and displays a steeply pitched gable roof sheathed in asphalt shingles with open eaves. The walls are clad in wide horizontal tongue-and-groove siding with corner boards and a wide wood water table. The cabin sits on concrete blocks and other miscellaneous materials including wood and stone. The entry to the cabin is central to the east façade and holds a wood door with four fixed lights and exterior cross bracing below the window. The door also has a green-painted lintel and wide trim flanking the door. The north elevation holds a centered fixed window and the south elevation holds a centered six light awning window. Windows on the north and south elevations are centered and include three-light fixed and six-light awning, respectively. There is no window opening on the rear façade. An 8 ft. x 10 ft. wood deck with wood benches and a wood railing attaches to the façade of the cabin. Over the door are affixed letters spelling "NEEPWAKAWIN" for the name of the cabin.

Sleeping (Maid's) cabin 2 (one contributing building, 1924)

A second one-room cabin sits 9 ft. behind and at a right angle to the above cabin. Similar in design, it sports a steeply pitched gable roof extended with open eaves. The cabin has horizontal tongue-and-groove siding with corner boards, and a concrete block foundation. The cabin faces north. The doorway is centrally located on the façade and holds a braced wood door with decorative green-painted lintel and wide trim. Six-light awning windows with screens are centered on the west elevation and the south façade. Leslie Savage built this cabin for use by the maids.

Studio cabin (one contributing building, circa 1945)

The studio cabin measures 13 ft. x 18 ft. and is located about 18 ft. east of the barn. The cabin displays a rectangular footprint and shows irregularly placed stone for the foundation. It has a gable roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. A recently installed sheet metal stove pipe pierces the roof. The roof features wide green metal fascia on the extended eaves, now enclosed by wire screens in an attempt to keep bats out. Round log purlins extend over the south façade. The log walls are square-notched, exhibit sawn log ends with both round pole chinking and aggregate daubing. The doorway on the south façade holds a vertical tongue-and-groove wood door. A two-light awning window flanks the door to the east. No window or door openings appear on the west wall, but the east elevation contains a screened opening covered with a log slab shutter near the northeast end of the wall. A six-light awning window sits central to the north façade of the building. This building, built by the Lydens for a generator, is used today as a studio.

⁴ Hauck, *The Story of Moose Lake*, np.

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Barn/Garage (one contributing building, 1924)

The 24 ft. x 24 ft. gable barn sits about 105 ft. north of the Itter/Savage cabin and faces south. The wood frame barn has a square footprint and has no visible foundation. The gable roof is sheathed in corrugated metal, has extended open eaves, and the walls are clad in weatherboard siding with corner boards. The south-facing façade has a four by four sliding window centered on the gable-end. The bay doorway has three vertical cross-braced tongue-and-groove doors mounted on an horizontal exterior track with decorative metal hangers.⁵ There are no window or doorways on the east and west walls of the barn. The north façade contains a four by four sliding window centered on the gable-end. The north end wall holds a bay doorway central to the façade with a vertical tongue-and-groove door with cross braces. The bay doorway is flanked by a single eight-light window to the east and west.

The barn, built by Savage for the Uppercu family, later changed into a garage. The interior has a dirt floor with the upper level supported by vertical posts. The loft is partitioned into two rooms and still has the original wood stove. The loft served as sleeping quarters for hired help.

Icehouse (bathhouse) (one contributing building, 1924, remodeled 2013)

This 13 ft. x 17 ft. building exhibits a rectangular footprint and rests about 12 ft. east of the Cookhouse. The building sits on a recent concrete slab foundation placed under it in 2013. The asphalt shingle covered saltbox roof features open eaves with enclosed rafters and green-painted metal fascia. The wood-frame building is clad in weatherboard siding with corner boards. The west-facing façade holds two staggered doors. The northern-most door is an identical replacement of the original door. The second doorway is off center to the north and contains a recent paneled metal door with upper fixed lights. A six-light casement window is also on the west façade. No window or door openings appear on the north elevation or east facade, but the south elevation has a cutout on the west. A recent (2013) six-light window is central to the south elevation.

The building originally functioned as an icehouse and was constructed prior to the arrival of the Uppercu's. Ice cut on Moose Lake during the winter months was stored in sawdust in the icehouse for use in the summer months. The 2013 re-purposing of the building for use as a bathhouse followed Forest Service guidelines for historic recreational residences.

Dock (one contributing structure)

The dock consists of three sections. The main portion extends 20 ft. onto Moose Lake and measures 6 ft. wide. It extends to a smaller original wood frame portion of the dock, now filled with grass. A secondary 12 ft.-square dock connects to the east side of the longer portion of the dock. Stone steps laid in the slope lead from the main cabin down to the dock.

Pumphouse (one contributing building)

The pumphouse, built into the north slope above the lake shore, stands at the southwest corner of the property and faces south toward Moose Lake. The 5 ft. x 5 ft. building is frame construction with vertical and horizontal board cladding. The structure has a shed roof covered in rolled asphalt. The doorway is

⁵ The current owners replaced the bay doors to the exact specification of the original doors in the late 1990s.

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centered on the façade and holds a vertical board door. The pumphouse is flanked by dried laid stone retaining walls. The pumphouse originally had an electric pump with pipes to bring lake water for the camp.

Landscaping

The Moose Lake Historic District presents a parklike appearance and the grounds are beautifully kept. Tom and Jane Van Dyk removed numerous young beetle-killed trees, and continue to create a defensible perimeter around the site in case of fire. All of the larger trees surrounding the main cabin are Douglas Fir.

Historic rock work remains visible although no longer maintained. A dry-laid lichen covered stone retaining wall still stands immediately south of the main cabin's enclosed porch along the edge of the slope. It stands two to three courses high, made of locally available stones. At the southwest corner of the sun porch are the remnants of a rock garden. Fifty-one lichen covered single stone steps embedded into the slope lead from the main cabin down to the dock.

Integrity

The Moose Lake Historic District stands in its original location and the setting remains greatly undisturbed. The location of the cabin at the north end of the recreational group has protected the site from any new construction or development. Over the years, trees have covered the once bare slope behind the cabin. The district retains considerable integrity of design, workmanship and materials. The outbuildings retain their overall integrity with no significant changes in spacing occurring between them. The site functions much as it did when established in the 1920s. While some minor modifications have occurred to most of the buildings within the district, none have significantly diminished their integrity as they retain their historic appearance and, the majority, their historic function. The Itter/Savage Cabin stands as the only structure to display a full log design, but others exhibit log slab walls, weatherboard cladding, and multi-pane sliding windows representative of the time they were constructed. The buildings, moreover, offer a uniformity of design enhanced by the brown staining of the building exteriors, and the green trim on the eaves and around the doorways and windows. The materials are original to the site and little change has occurred to the setting.

Many of the modifications to the buildings within the Moose Lake Historic District occurred within the period of significance and are compatible with the historic character of the cabin. The main cabin illustrates the evolution of a recreational retreat, from a crude building with no electricity and running water to the "improved" cabin of the early 1930s with its enclosed porches, the late 1930s introduction of running water, and the early 1960s installation of a full indoor bath. It has not been extensively remodeled like most of the other cabins within the group of recreational cabins surrounding Moose Lake, continuing to strongly evoke its aesthetic and historic character. In 1963, still within the period of significance, the Haucks added a kitchen/dining room to the east end of the main log cabin.

Modifications that occurred outside the period of significance are few and not overly intrusive. In 1997, the Haucks installed the picture window on the west elevation of the Cookhouse, and in 2013, the icehouse was re-purposed into a bathhouse. Since the 1980s, all of the building roofs, with the exception

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of the barn, were raised to install insulation; this occurred without altering the original roof lines. In 1997, the Haucks installed the picture window on the west elevation of the Cookhouse. In 2013, the icehouse was re-purposed into a bathhouse.

The outbuildings within the site area retain their overall integrity with no significant changes in the appearance. The site functions much as it did when established in the 1920s.

The present owners have successfully, though considerable time and effort, preserved the historic character and integrity of the Moose Lake Historic District.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Period of Significance

1918-1967

Significant Dates

1918, 1924, 1945

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Martin Johnson/Builder

Leslie L. Savage/Builder

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Moose Lake Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level of significance. The period of significance for the Moose Lake Historic District begins in 1918 and extends to 1967 (the present 50-year termination date for eligibility). The Moose Lake Historic District is significant under Criterion A for its historic association with recreational residences within the Philipsburg Ranger District Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. The Moose Lake Historic District history represents the evolution of one of the oldest recreational cabin groups in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest that retains integrity to reflect its historic appearance and character.

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Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

In 2006, the Forest Service Northern Region developed a regional-level approach to understand and evaluate the historical significance of recreation tracts and their individual residences. This approach recommended actions for evaluating residences for National Register of Historic Places eligibility. Using these recommendations, the Moose Lake Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A as a representative example of recreational residences built during the early development period on forest lands (1915-1932) after the passage of the Term Occupancy Act of 1915. The occupancy act allowed private citizens to construct recreational residences on forest lands under a permitting system in recognition of the growing importance of recreation on forest lands.⁶

The Moose Lake Historic District is a pristine example of a recreational residence site established in the early twentieth century. Moose Lake originated as the scene of considerable mining and mining speculation in the late nineteenth century. The area's isolation and scenic qualities gradually outweighed the mineral wealth locked up in the native rocks. By the early 1920s, mining promoters began building cabins and summer homes on the lake, taking advantage of the area's natural attractions instead of its gold and silver. Many of those occupying seasonal cabin sites, including Julian Itter, Leslie Savage, and Inglis Uppercu, continued to mine in the Moose Lake region until the 1930s. Today, Moose Lake is surrounded by summer residences. The Moose Lake Historic District, perhaps more than any other recreational site in the area, represents that transformation from mining to recreation in what can be regarded as an unspoiled region of southwestern Montana.

History

Moose Lake is a kettle lake located within the Pintler Mountains of southwestern and western Montana. The Pintlers were formed about 70 million years ago when the leading edge of the Sapphire Block collided with the Flint Creek Mountains. The collision caused the leading edge of the block to crumple and fold, allowing magma from the Idaho Batholith to flow into the thrust faults. Ore deposits are located in the fringes of the granite intrusion in what is a complex geological feature. The Pintlers host several kettle lakes in addition to Moose lake. These lakes are typically shallow, sediment-filled bodies of water formed by retreating glaciers. Moose Lake, at an altitude of 6,040 ft., likely formed about 15,000 years ago when the Pinedale ice sheet retreated northward.⁷

⁶ The significance statement follows "recommended actions for evaluating residences" presented in "Recreation Residence Historic Contexts for Eight National Forests in USDA-Region One Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Montana," Prepared for USDA Forest Service Northern Region One, Missoula, MT by HHM, Inc, Austin, TX, July 2006.

⁷ David Alt and Donald W. Hyndman, *Roadside Geology of Montana*, (Missoula: Mountain Press Publishing Co., 1986), 17-18, 31, 189.

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Recreational Residences on National Forest Lands⁸

Congress seriously debated the concept of forest reserves as early as the 1880s, but it was not until March 1891 when they enacted the Forest Reserve Act that allowed the President to withdraw and reserve public lands “wholly or in part covered with timber and undergrowth, whether of commercial value or not.” In 1897, the Forest Management Act provided management provisions and monies to protect these newly-created forest reserves and declared the forests were to be managed for “the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run.” For most of the twentieth century, this “organic act” served as the standard for all public land management agencies.⁹

In the early twentieth century, President Theodore Roosevelt, an ardent conservationist, set aside over 140 million acres of western forests under the Forest Reserve Act. Roosevelt also transferred the forest reserves from the Department of Interior to the Department of Agriculture and established the Forest Service as we know it today. All reserves were renamed national forests in 1907.

The creation of the Forest Service paralleled the “growing national outdoor recreational movement” in the West. In 1905, Gifford Pinchot, the first chief forester of the Forest Service, in his *The Use of the National Forest Reserves*, presents the first policies pertaining to recreational use of forests. Although not a priority in the early years of the forest service, by 1912 recreation, augmented by improved access, increased on forest lands. A 1912 *Report of the Forester* noted: “In some of the most accessible and desirable localities the land has been divided into suitable lots of from 1 to 5 acres to accommodate as many visitors as possible.” The following year, the 1913 annual report stated “recreation use of the Forest is growing very rapidly” with “hundreds of...camps and cabins built” on forest lands “obtained through permits...”¹⁰

In response to increased recreational use on forests, Congress passed the Act of March 4, 1915, the Term Occupancy Act, granted private for use and development of forest lands including hotels, cabins and resorts. Of particular interest is the permitting for “the use and occupancy of suitable areas of land within the national forests, not exceeding five acres and for periods not exceeding thirty years, for the purpose of constructing or maintaining summer homes and stores”¹¹

In 1917, the Forest Service hired Frank Waugh, a landscape architect, to conduct a survey of recreation on forest public lands. In his report, Waugh strongly recommended that recreation be recognized equal in importance with other forest uses like timber and grazing. He presented an outline in regard to summer

⁸ In 2006, USDA Forest Service Region 1 which manages public lands in Montana and Idaho under its Section 106 responsibilities of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 prepared a historic context that addresses historic recreation residences within Region 1. The following discussion on the Forest Service is partially derived from this report. HHM Inc. “Recreation Residence Historic Contexts for Eight National Forests in USDA-Region 1 Gallatin National Forest Montana,”

⁹ Harold K. Steen, “The Origins and Significance of the National Forest System,” *The Origins of the National Forest*, ed. Harold Steen, (Durham, NC: Forest History Society, 1992): 3-9.

¹⁰ William C. Tweed, *Recreation Site Planning and Improvement in National Forests 1891-1942* (Washington, DC: United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, 1980), 1-3.

¹¹ Act of March 4, 1915 (P.L. 63-293, Ch. 144. 38 Stat. 1101), as amended, in United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, *The Principal Laws Relating to Forest Service Activities* (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1993).

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home development that adhered to his landscape ideals, emphasizing that “lots and summer homes ... must be arranged according to environmental conditions and with minimal impact upon the natural beauty of the landscape.” Waugh’s recommendations greatly influenced Forest Service recreational planning into the future.¹²

In the 1920s, as the demand for summer homes on forest lands increased, recreation regulations became more defined. The Forest Service required plans of proposed buildings and tract developments that emphasized the importance of being in harmony with the environment. The summer home tracts were reduced to one acre or less and term permits ranged from 5 to 15 years.¹³

In the 1930s, under President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s administration, New Deal programs like the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) concentrated their efforts on public recreation facilities. The CCC developed campgrounds and built roads and trails throughout national forests in the West. Since the Forest Service held the responsibility for the administration of the CCC on forest lands, other land uses, like recreational homes, received less attention.

In 1937, the Forest Service created the Division of Lands and Recreation to coordinate policies and management. The expansive public recreation improvements of the 1930s also brought a changing philosophy regarding summer homes. The 1938 recreational policies declared “overall mission” stated that “recreational resource of the National Forests will be managed for the fullest use of the general public and not for the exclusive use of individuals or small groups.” Furthermore, “additional summer homes will be granted only where there appears to be no reasonable possibility of any need ... by recreational uses of a less exclusive nature” and where summer homes exist, “... if lands are needed for campgrounds, picnic grounds or other higher priorities of recreational use, the permits will be terminated after due notice.”¹⁴

Forest Service recreational use and development stalled during World War II but exploded after the war. Public recreation on forest lands expanded to serve the growing needs of the public. Recreational residences continued as a low priority until eventually the Forest Service ceased issuing new permits for recreational residences on forest lands.

Recreational Residences, Philipsburg Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Originally, the Moose Lake Historic District sat within the Hell Gate Forest Reserve established in 1905. In 1908, Hell Gate Forest Reserve lands were divided with the dissolution of the reserve. The Moose Lake Historic District fell into the Missoula National Forest created in 1906. In 1931, the Missoula National Forest transferred all its lands between the Deerlodge and Lolo National Forests resulting in Moose Lake’s placement within the Deerlodge Forest. Change occurred again in 1996 when the Deerlodge National Forest combined with the Beaverhead National Forest. The Beaverhead-Deerlodge

¹² HHM, Inc., “Recreational Residences Historic Contexts-Gallatin National Forest,” 5-4; Tweed, “*Recreation Site Planning*,” 6-7.

¹³ HHM. “Recreational Residences Historic Contexts-Gallatin National Forest,” 5-6, 5-7.

¹⁴ Ibid, 5-10, 5-11.

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National Forest is part of Region One or Northern Region (designated in 1908) which encompasses 3.36 million acres of public lands in Montana and Idaho.¹⁵

Today, the Philipsburg Ranger District of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest holds many recreational residences.¹⁶

The Moose Lake Mining Area

The promise of rich gold and silver mines, not recreation, first brought people into the Moose Lake area. A national economic depression sparked a resurgence in mineral prospecting for many looking to make it rich. Prospectors from Butte, Anaconda, Philipsburg, and the Bitterroot Valley crossed into the Pintler Mountains beginning about 1895. Although many filed claims on prospective lode claims, only a few were developed to any great extent. Promoters, moreover, recognized the potential of the area, but few syndicates were willing to invest enough money to make the claims paying propositions. Instead, much of the development in the area was accomplished by those familiar with the district or by small groups of investors from Philipsburg and Anaconda. The inaccessibility of the claims and the lack of a reliable all-season road slowed development of the Moose Lake area. Mining in the unorganized Moose Lake Mining District occurred from 1898 to 1935, peaking in 1903. That year the Moose Lake Mining Company incorporated in Anaconda to develop its Daisy and Dandy lodes to the southeast of Moose Lake. Other mining companies soon followed, but, like the Moose Lake company, failed to produce enough high-grade ore to make the mines profitable enterprises. By the 1930s and the Great Depression, mining in the district was only desultorily conducted and, by 1935, had largely ended. Many of the men and women who came to the district, however, stayed on as homesteaders or as, essentially, hired hands employed by the “summer people” who had discovered the attractions of Moose Lake. One of those was Martin “Moose” Johnson, for whom the lake was named.¹⁷

Born in Iowa in 1862, Moose Johnson came to Montana from Nebraska in 1887. He settled first in Hamilton in the Bitterroot Valley with his brother, before moving to Granite County about 1897. Throughout his long life, Johnson was involved with mine prospects in the Frog Pond and Moose Lake districts. In June 1897, he and several other men filed on an unpatented mining claim south of Moose Lake. Johnson soon filed on additional claims in the area, but failed to patent the properties. In the early 1930s, he, with several partners, filed on a 19-acre claim about five miles north of Moose Lake. They obtained the patent to the Senate Lode in November 1934. It is unclear if the mine produced anything, however. Johnson also worked several placer claims in the districts.¹⁸

¹⁵ US Department of Agriculture Forest Service, “Establishment and Modifications of National Forest Boundaries A Chronologic Record, 1891-1968,” Compiled by Division of Engineering, June 1968, in possession of authors.

¹⁶ Recreational residences structures are privately owned by permit holders. A new permit is required either with the transfer or sale of recreational residence structures or if names are added or removed from a permit. For further information, see *Forest Service Handbook Supplement for the Administration of Recreation Residence Permits on the Gallatin National Forest*; link available on Gallatin National Forest home page at <http://www.fs.usda.gov>.

¹⁷ Hauck, *The Story of Moose Lake*; GLO Records, viewed at www.glorerecords.blm.gov; “Moose Lake Surprised,” *The Anaconda Standard*, March 2, 1898; “Moose Lake Incorporated,” *The Butte Inter Mountain*, April 3, 1903.

¹⁸ Elizabeth C. Hauck, *Gold on a Shoestring: Tales of Moose Lake as a Mining Camp*, (Wenatchee, WA: Jursnick Printing Co., 1984), 15, 17; General Land Office Records, viewed at www.glorerecords.blm.gov; US Census Records, viewed at www.ancestry.com.

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A true jack-of-all-trades, Johnson also survived as a guide, trapper, builder, wrangler, and caretaker in the Moose Lake area for over five decades. As the character of Moose Lake evolved from a mining district into a recreational area, Johnson found work building summer cabins around the lake. He also worked trap lines. Definitely a local character, he was popular with the part time residents of the area, especially the children. Moose Johnson died in October 1941.¹⁹

Mining in the Moose Lake Area (Section 36, Township 4 North, Range 16 West)

Prospectors and miners had been active in the Moose Creek mining area since the 1890s and some filed claims on unsurveyed mineral lodes. The release of the General Land Office survey map of the township in May 1915 initiated the formal development of the Moose Lake area. Of the six formal mineral and homestead filings in the district, only one was for a homestead. Five were made by individuals or mining companies to formally gain title to potentially rich mining claims. The residual land was incorporated into the Missoula National Forest in 1906. The Banner Mining Company, J. P. Dunn Mining Company, and the Moose Lake Mining Company were active in the district from 1903 until the 1930s. The owners of the companies also established recreation residences around the lake, while the mining operations were located in the surrounding mountains. Mining entrepreneurs included J. P. Dunn, Betsy Musselman, Julian Itter, Leslie Savage, Inglis Upperco, and Moose Johnson. Most stayed as long as their mining properties paid at least some kind of dividend. The mining men and woman established the original industrial character of Moose Lake. That character changed as the “old timers” passed away or left when their mines were no longer profitable. By the end of World War II, the mining past of Moose Lake largely vanished as more summer residences were established by non-miners from western Montana.²⁰

Moose Lake Historic District

Mining prospects changed the character of Moose Lake, but not in the way the promoters and speculators intended. Instead of becoming a center of mining activity, Moose Lake became a haven for “summer people” looking to get away from the hustle and bustle of civilization. Local historian Elizabeth Hauck described the transformation of Moose Lake in her excellent history of the area, *Gold on a Shoestring: Tales of Moose Lake as a Mining Camp*. She wrote of the new part time residents of the lake:

They were city people, people with money. Some were Montanans, drawn by the beautiful lake, loving the leisurely summer days for themselves and their growing families; others were Easterners, drawn to the state by their mining interests. These newcomers created a world of sophistication, of moneyed people with impressive cars, of “modern” conveniences, servants, parties, even golf.

The “sophistication” manifested itself in idyllic summer days of card parties, cocktails on the veranda, horseback rides, and substantial cabins that belied the area’s mining origin.²¹

¹⁹ Hauck, *Gold on a Shoestring*, 17, 19; “Body of Trapper is Found Near Bottom of Cliff,” *The Montana Standard*, October 26, 1941.

²⁰ Hauck, *The Story of Moose Lake*; GLO Records.

²¹ Hauck, *Gold on a Shoestring*, 33.

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The prospect of mineral wealth in the Moose Lake mining district attracted the attention of landscape painter and British Columbia mining promoter Julian E. Itter in 1917 or 1918. Born in Ontario, Canada in 1873, Itter and his brother, William, operated a photography studio in Rossland, British Columbia in the late nineteenth century. When other opportunities drew William to Vancouver, Julian immigrated to the United States in 1898, settling first in Republic, Washington. Largely a self-taught painter, Itter specialized in impressionist-style landscapes on large canvases. The Cascade Mountains proved a fertile subject for his early works. In 1904, the State of Washington selected some of Itter's paintings for exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis in 1904. After a dispute with his supervisor, he left St. Louis and returned to Washington. He also spent time painting landscapes of the Bitterroot Mountains of western Montana for the Milwaukee Road Railroad. In 1913, Itter moved to New York City where he met and married socialite Gladys Smallwood later that year.²²

The newlyweds sailed to Europe in 1914, but were forced to return to New York at the outbreak of World War I. The couple moved west in 1918. Reports of potentially rich mineral deposits in southwestern Montana aroused Julian's interest and lured the couple to Moose Lake. In 1919, he filed on a mining claim in the Frog Pond Basin a few miles west of Moose Lake. Over the next five years, he filed on an additional 14 claims in the district. There is no evidence, however, that he did much development work on his mining properties or even was very knowledgeable about mining in general.²³

Although the prospect of mineral wealth brought Julian and Gladys Itter to the Moose Lake, they were also captivated by the scenic beauty of the area. In 1918, they hired local prospector and hunter Martin Johnson to build them a cabin at the north end of Moose Lake. The cabin, according to local author Elizabeth Hauck, "was a larger structure, with sizeable windows, constructed of huge logs and with a high log-beamed ceiling." Evidence suggests that Itters spent the summers at the cabin and wintered in New York with Gladys's family, especially after the birth of their son, Julian Jr. in 1922.²⁴

Although only in the area for a short time, Julian made a big impression on residents in nearby Philipsburg, the Granite County seat, and in the Moose Lake area. According to one reminiscence, Itter "spoke often of being an Austrian count, of his years in Vienna, of his training at the L'Ecole des Beaux Arts and L'Ecole Escoffier in Paris, and his career as a chef at the Ritz." Indeed, at a Philipsburg Women's Club meeting held in October 1921, Itter claimed to have "studied abroad for 14 years under celebrated masters," with his paintings on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the Louvre in Paris. Although an accomplished and recognized artist, Itter was also somewhat of a fraud in that many of his claims were patently untrue. But his beliefs in the richness of the Frog Pond Mining District did attract some attention.²⁵

²² "Julian Edward Itter: Father of North Cascades National Park," article retrieved from <http://spokanehistorical.org/items/show/615> on October 21, 2016.

²³ Sadlo, Ibid; Hauck, *Gold on a Shoestring*, 30; General Land Office Records.

²⁴ Hauck, *Gold on a Shoestring*, 31.

²⁵ The 1910 US census indicates that Itter's parents were both born in Canada. Further, a timeline of his life developed by Adrienne Sadlo would seem to indicate that Itter never spent any appreciable time in Europe prior to World War I studying under the "masters." That he was a recognized talent would suggest that he had some training, but was probably mostly self-taught. Hauck, *Gold on a Shoestring*, 30; US Census Records; "Philipsburg News Notes," *The Anaconda Standard*, October 21, 1921.

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In 1923, Itter's reports of the potential value of silver deposits in the Frog Pond Basin brought Leslie "Les" Savage to Moose Lake. Born in Oakland, California in 1880, Savage graduated from Columbia University about 1902 and was operating a mine near Elko, Nevada in 1910. Savage and Itter formed a business partnership to develop mining claims in the basin. From the beginning, the partnership was an uneasy one with Savage suggesting in his diary that Itter was unfocussed and knew little about the mining industry. Savage met and fell in love with Edith Terhune, the niece of a local mine owner, in 1924. Savage bought out Itter's interests in the mining properties and the cabin on the north side of Moose Lake in January 1924. The Itters then left Montana, never to return.²⁶

During their tenure on Moose Lake, Leslie and Edith Savage expanded the home site, building at least six of the eight structures on lot 5. With Itter's departure, Savage was able to convince an old classmate, Inglis M. Uppercu, to invest in the Frog Pond mining properties. In February 1924, the men formed The Montana Prince Mining Company, incorporating it in New York City. Uppercu was a well-known New York businessman. Born in Illinois in 1877, he moved to New York City in 1888 and later graduated from Columbia University. A lawyer by training, he established the Motor Car Company in New Jersey in 1902 and then formed the Detroit Cadillac Motor Car Company in New York City in 1908. Uppercu became wealthy selling Autocars, Cadillacs, and Packards in the Big Apple. In 1914, he organized the Aeromarine Plane & Motor Company to manufacture airplanes. He obtained contracts from the US Army and Navy during World War I to build observation and trainers for the military. Through those contracts, expanded the business into providing passenger services and Air Mail delivery on the East Coast. After visiting the district with Savage in 1923, Uppercu arrived on Moose Lake with his wife, five daughters, chauffeur, and governess in two brand new Cadillacs in the summer of 1924.²⁷

In anticipation of the Uppercu's arrival, Savage built the cookhouse so the two families could eat together, two small cabins for maids, an icehouse, and a barn. The help including a cook, handy-man, maids, and a wrangler. Savage constructed a "bungalow" for the Uppercu family on the adjoining parcel. Electricity for what Savage called "The Colony" was provided by a generator.²⁸ Savage added a glassed-in porch (later to become a veranda) on his cabin and erected a flagpole in the compound. It wasn't until February 1928 that the families obtained Forest Service Recreational Use Permits for their improvements on the north end of Moose Lake. By all accounts, life during the summers on Moose Lake was idyllic for the families as they canoed and swam in the lake and rode horses into the surrounding forest. The good times couldn't last forever, however. The Great Depression hit Savage hard. By the mid-1930s, the mines ceased to provide him with an income. Consequently, he attempted to sell the mining claims and put the improvements on his Moose Lake lot on the market. Les and Edith Savage left Moose Lake in 1936 and moved to New Jersey. The Uppercus, too, left the area and never returned.²⁹

²⁶ Hauck, *Gold on a Shoestring*, 30-33; Hauck, *The Story of Moose Lake*, np; US Census Records; "Philipsburg News," *The Anaconda Standard*, January 10, 1924; "Philipsburg Bureau," *The Anaconda Standard*, October 14, 1924.

²⁷ Hauck, *Gold on a Shoestring*, 33, 37; Hauck, *The Story of Moose Lake*, np; "Aeromarine Plane & Motor Co.," <http://coachbuilt.com>, retrieved June 16, 2017.

²⁸ The site relied on the generator for power until 1964 when the Moose Lake properties were hooked up to a power line.

²⁹ Hauck, *Gold on a Shoestring*, 34-35; Hauck, *The Story of Moose Lake*, np.

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Despite being placed up for sale, there were no buyers for the two lots and the buildings on it began to deteriorate. It wasn't until 1945 that Butte tobacconist and saloonkeeper Joseph Lyden and his wife, Mae, purchased the improvements on lots 4 and 5 and combined them. They obtained the Recreational Use permit in October 1945. The Lydens repaired the deteriorating roofs and floors of the buildings, re-wired the cabins, replaced privies with indoor bathrooms, and built a new generator house. The Lydens sold the property to John and Elizabeth Hauck, who obtained a Recreational Use Permit only for lot 5 in October 1962. In 1986, the Haucks transferred ownership of the Moose Lake Historic District to Thomas and Jane Van Dyk, who currently own the property.³⁰

Jane Van Dyk offered the following about their Moose Lake camp:

Our family has been coming to the lake for over 70 years, with fourth generation youngsters now discovering its magic. It has become a symbolic place for us, a wellstone for re-connecting with nature and with each other. Here we experience many things from a bygone era: getting wood to build fires to keep warm; horseback riding in the Pintler Wilderness; hunting in the fall to bring meat to the table; seeing wildlife such as moose, deer, elk, fox, sandhill cranes, great blue herons; pausing in awe to experience the silence and solitude of the frozen lake in the winter, seeing the stars peppered across the night sky.

Family members and friends come year after year from far and wide to take away what each one needs from spending time in the natural world. Over the years there have been many gatherings, including family reunions, memorial concerts, weddings, and wedding anniversaries. Grandson Jasper Van Dyk, age 7, wrote this poem when asked to describe what Moose Lake means to him:

Cookie cabin, main cabin,
Both are fun
Floating dock and a canoe,
All are fun things to do!³¹

Summary

The Moose Lake Historic District stands as one of the best representative examples of a recreational property established in the early twentieth century in the Moose Lake area. While the area originally drew interest from miners, it soon garnered attention for the beauty of the surrounding landscape. The Moose Lake Historic District continues to present a parklike appearance dating to its origin as a recreational facility. Few changes have occurred to the collection of resources that together, tell the story of the evolving property. It functions much as it did when the original construction of the main cabin occurred in 1918—as a recreational destination located in a National Forest under a special use permit.

³⁰ Jane Van Dyk is John and Elizabeth Haucks daughter. Hauck, *Gold on a Shoestring*, 36, 38.

³¹ Jane Van Dyk, July 2017.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☒ Other

Name of repository: Thomas and Jane Van Dyk

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.55

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

The center of the property is located at:

1. Latitude: 46.054220

Longitude: -113.532210

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 12

Easting: 304120

Northing: 5103188

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Moose Lake Historic District is located in Granite County, Montana at Latitude: 46.054220 Longitude: -113.532210 (NW¼ NW¼ SE¼ of Section 36, T4N, R16W). It is within the boundaries of the Philipsburg Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Montana.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the site encompasses Lots 4 and 5 of the Moose Lake Tract B, Philipsburg Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jon Axline and Joan Brownell/Historians
organization: _____
street & number: 448 Parriman Street
city or town: Helena state: MT zip code: 59602
e-mail jaxline@mt.gov
telephone: 406-422-2111
date: July 7, 2017

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Thomas W., Jane, Frederic T. and Nathan T. Van Dyk
street & number 3130 Gregory Drive telephone (406) 656-8798
city or town Billings state MT zip code 59102

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

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Photo Log, All Photographs:

Name of Property: Moose Lake Historic District

City or Vicinity: Philipsburg vicinity

County: Granite

State: MT

Photographer: Kristi Hager

Date Photographed: May 2017

Please See Continuation Sheets

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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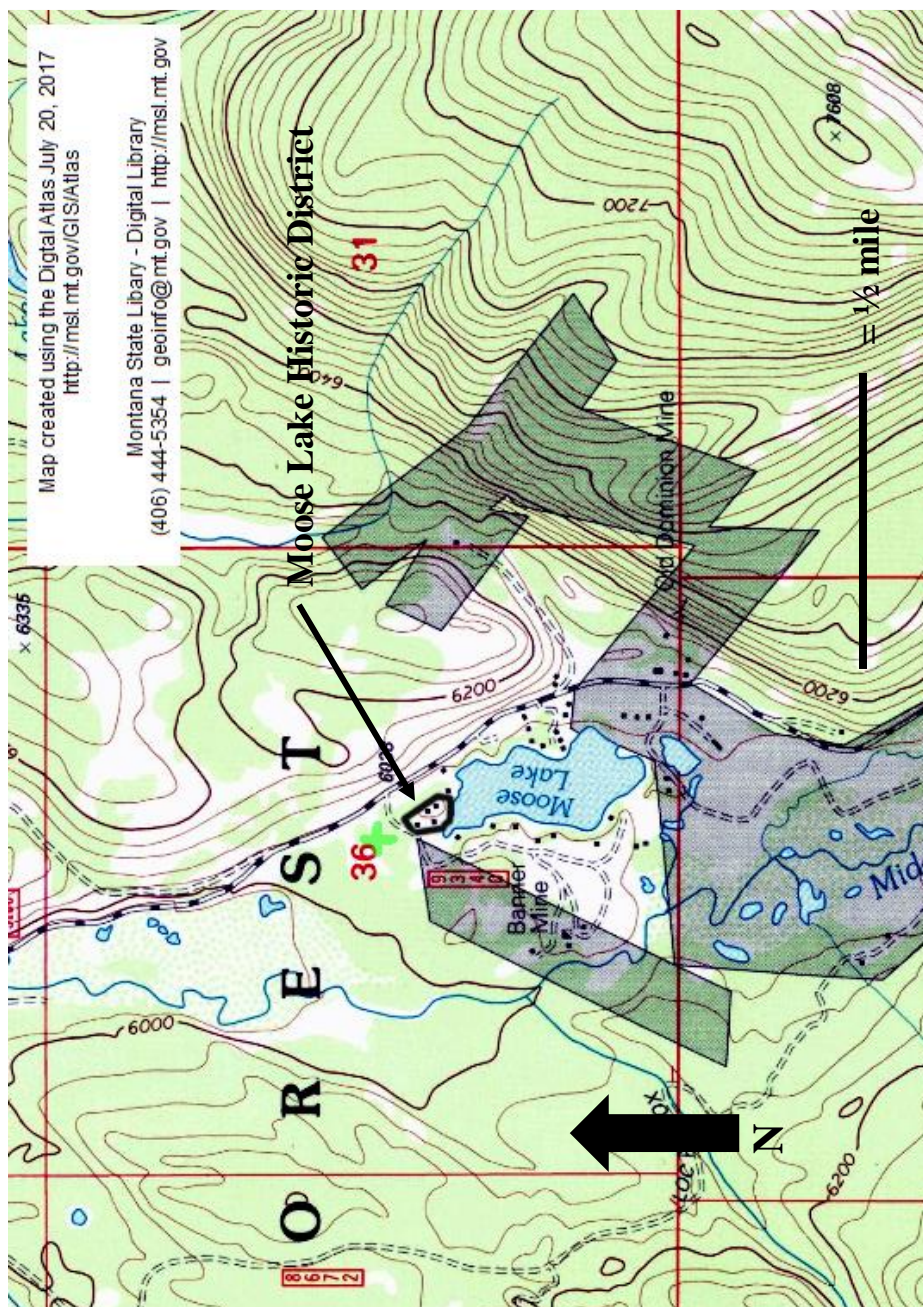
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Aerial Photograph of the Moose Lake Historic District.

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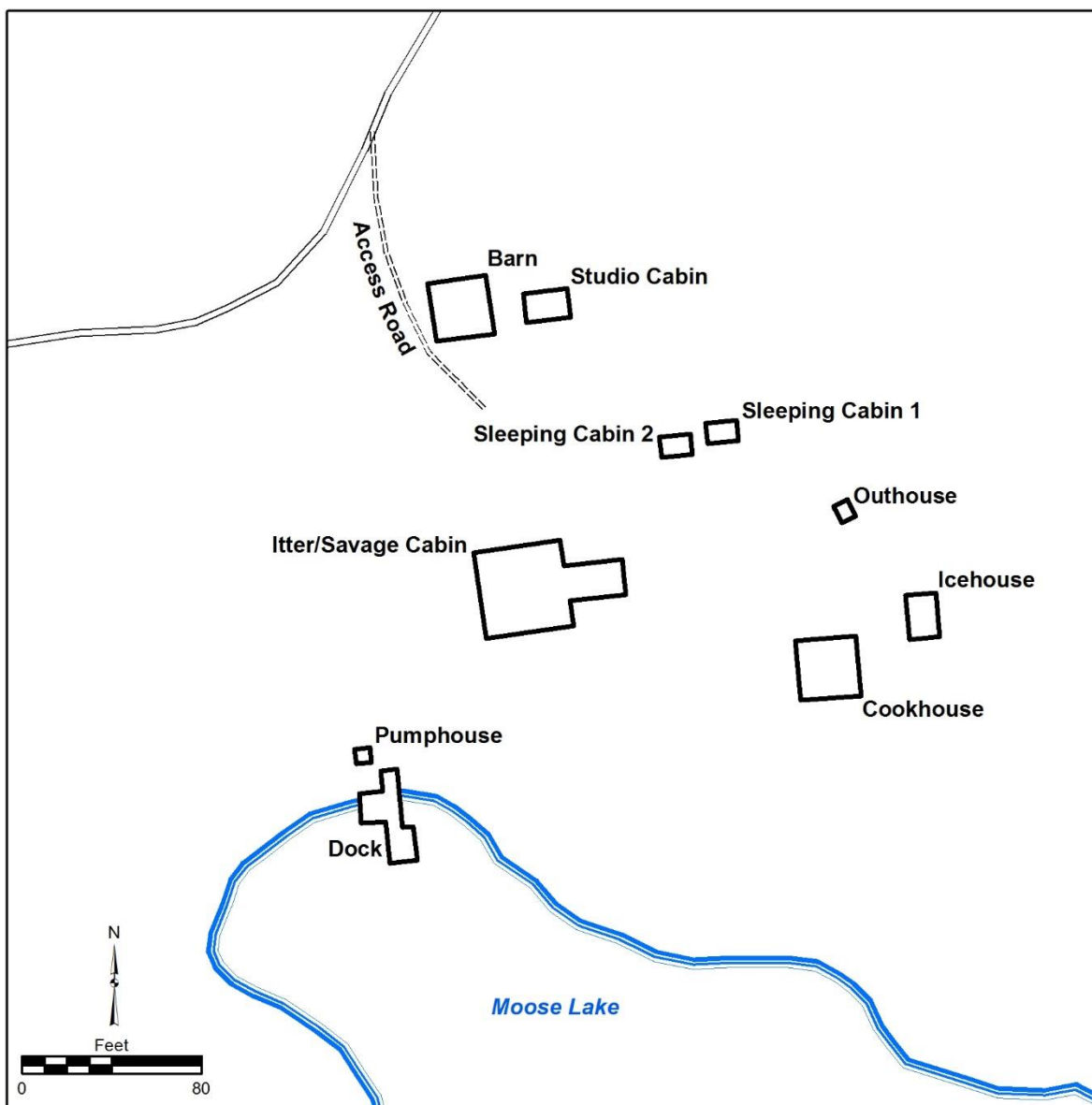
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Sketch map of the Moose Lake Historic District

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Martin "Moose" Johnson bottle feeding Bosco the Moose, ca. 1925.

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Julian and Gladys Itter at cabin, ca. 1920.

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The Itter/Savage Cabin, ca. 1950.

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The Itter/Savage Cabin with Barn on left, ca. 1936.

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Idyll at the Moose Lake Historic District, 1960s.

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**Photo #0001: The Moose Lake Historic District. Overview. View to the north-northwest.
Photo date: May 2017.**

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**Photo #0002: The Moose Lake Historic District. Overview. View to the east-southeast.
Photo date: May 2017.**

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Photo #0003: The Moose Lake Historic District. Itter/Savage Cabin. Front (south) and east addition. View to northwest. Photo date: May 2017.

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Photo #0004: The Moose Lake Historic District. Itter/Savage Cabin. Front (south) and east side. View to northwest. Photo date: May 2017.

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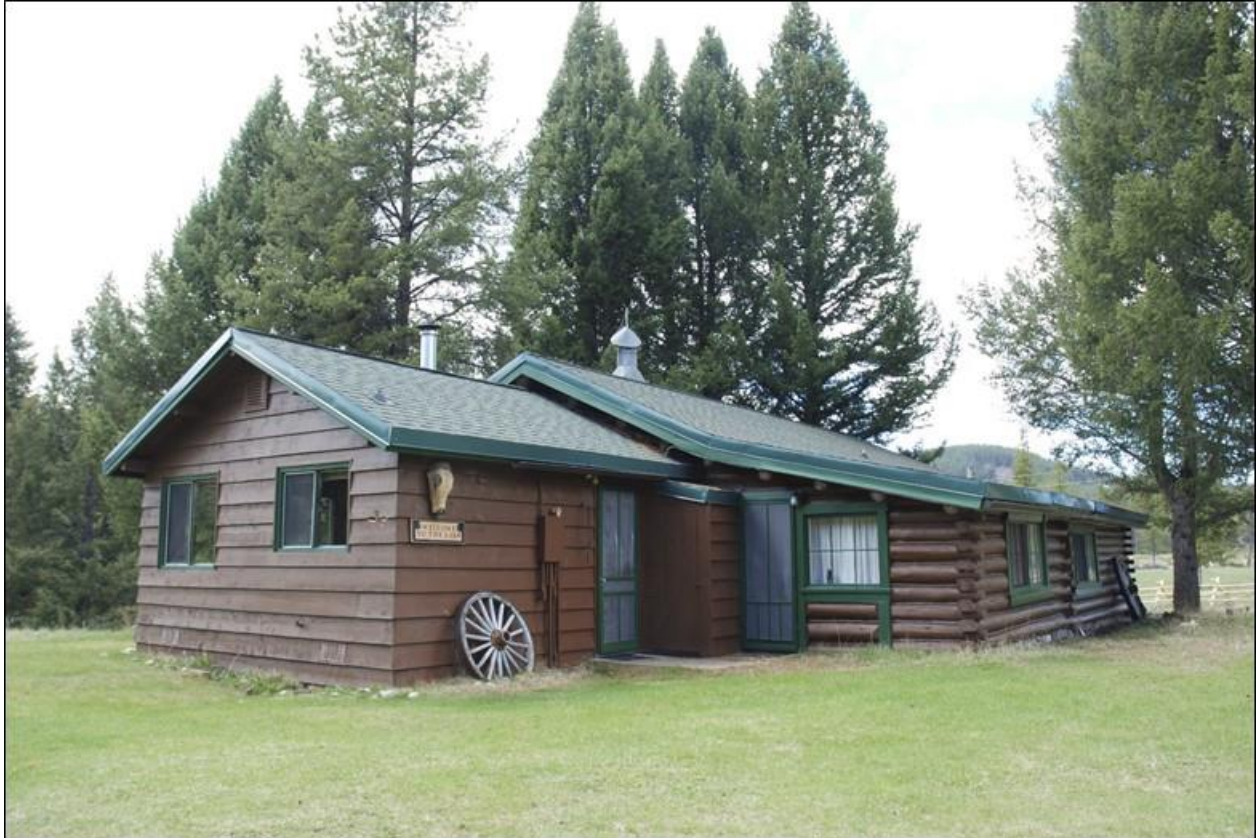


Photo #0005: The Moose Lake Historic District. Itter/Savage Cabin. East and rear (north) sides. View to southwest. Photo date: May 2017.

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Photo #0006: The Moose Lake Historic District. Itter/Savage Cabin. Rear (north) side. View to the south. Photo date: May 2017.

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Photo #0007: The Moose Lake Historic District. Itter/Savage Cabin. West side. View to the east. Photo date: May 2017.

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Photo #0008: The Moose Lake Historic District. Outhouse. North and east side. View to the southwest. Photo date: May 2017.

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Moose Lake Historic District

Name of Property

Granite County, MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

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Photo #0009: The Moose Lake Historic District. Cookhouse. Front (north) and east side. View to the southwest. Photo date: May 2017.

United States Department of the Interior
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Moose Lake Historic District

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Photo #0010: The Moose Lake Historic District. Cookhouse. South (rear) and west sides. View to the east. Photo date: May 2017.

United States Department of the Interior
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Moose Lake Historic District

Name of Property

Granite County, MT

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Photo #0011: The Moose Lake Historic District. Sleeping (Maid's) Cabin 1. Front (east) and south side. View to the northwest. Photo date: May 2017.

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Moose Lake Historic District

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Photo #0012: The Moose Lake Historic District. Sleeping (Maid's) Cabin 2. Front (north) and west side. View to the southeast. Photo date: May 2017.

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Moose Lake Historic District

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Photo #0013: The Moose Lake Historic District. Studio. Front (south) and east side. View to the north-northeast. Photo date: May 2017.

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Moose Lake Historic District

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Photo #0014: The Moose Lake Historic District. Barn/Garage. Front (south) and west side. View to the northeast. Photo date: May 2017.

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Moose Lake Historic District

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Granite County, MT

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Photo #0015: The Moose Lake Historic District. Barn/Garage. Rear (north) and west side. View to the southeast. Photo date: May 2017.

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Moose Lake Historic District

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Photo #0016: The Moose Lake Historic District. Bathhouse. Front (west) and north side. View to the east. Photo date: May 2017.

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Moose Lake Historic District

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Photo #0017: The Moose Lake Historic District. Pumphouse. View to the north. Photo date: May 2017.

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Moose Lake Historic District

Name of Property

Granite County, MT

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Photo #0018: The Moose Lake Historic District. Dock. View to the south. Photo date: May 2017.